made.

To the lover of nature it was deeply interesting, thus to study one of those magnificent exhibitions of a power, whose origin is but little known, and more particularly so, coming as it did, in an unusual form.

Captain Ross gives it as his decided opinion, that the aurora is caused entirely by action of the sun's rays upon the vast body of icy and snowy plains and mountains which surround the poles, and depends much on the depression of the sun below the horizon, and the nature of the surface which first returns the sun's rays at the point of incidence, which, if uneven, will produce the rays known by the name of the merry dancers? if the surface is even it will produce the beam provided the cloud is tranquil, but if not, the peacit rays or terch will be produced.—Philadelphia U. S. Gazette, Jan. 23.

interval of some months, during which many displays of the Aurora Borealis have been noticed in this city, it appeared on Wednesday night with surpassing brilliancy. Believing that a brief notice of this phenomenon may be interesting to our readers, we have endeavored to state the occurrence accurately.

It was first seen about 6, P. M., in the form of a broad red colored arch, extending from the eastern point of the horizen nearly to the north-west. The parometer was rising, and at that time stood at 30, 12, with the thermometer falling, being 14-5. The intensity of the color varied at different times in different tensity of the color varied at different times in differparts of the arch; but the western extremity was generally the most brilliant. The sky was perfectly
clear excepting a long narrow cloud on the verge of
the easers borson. The whole of the northern sky
was illuminated, and the color strikingly different
from that of the remainder of the Heavens. Shortly
after seven beams of whitish light shot up from different parts of the horizon, and about half past seven a
complete corona was formed at a point a little north
and east of the Ploiades. By an inspection of the celestial globe, its angular position was nearly 74° 30,
and about a degree east of the meridian, and probably
corresponded with the extension of the dipping needle
or the magnetic zenith. The whole Heavens were covered with the Aurora, exhibiting in one place brilliant
white beams, and in others a mass of red or rose cowhite beams, and in others a mass of red or rose co-lored light in which the beams were absent or indis-tinct. About this time, through a small telescope, Jupiter and its moons were seen distinctly, although the Aurora was then spread over it and the surround-ing sky. At the point of convergence the beams were bent as it were out of the direct line, which they were bent as it were out of the direct line, which they afterwards resumed. This peculiarity was observed also in the splendid Auroras of last year. The appearance of the Aurora was continually changing, at one time fading almost away, and again flashing up with increased splendor; probably its appearance at half past 18 surpassed that of every other part of the evening. It differed from the Aurora of November 1835, in presenting colours of an intenser hue, though of less variety, as those were simply the red and white or yellowish, while in that all the colors of the spectrum were represented.

white or yellowish, while in that all the colors of the spectrum were represented.

It is probable that this Aurora was visible over a great proportion of the United States, Canada and the North of Europe; and it will be interesting to compare the hour of its appearance as noted at different places. Whether the intense cold of last winter which followed, and indeed accompanied the very brilliant Auroras that then occurred, will also accompany this display, is a question which the scanty collection of facts will not enable us to decide. It is certain, h wever, that the thermometer fell rapidly on Wednesday afternoon and evening, and that yesterday was much celder than many of the preceding days.

days.

The moon shone brilliantly all the evening.—Daily

Adr., Albany, Jan. 27. Acrora Borralis.—A splendid exhibition of the Aurora Borralis was visible last evening, commencing at six o'clock, and continuing about four hours. The sky was most brilliantly illuminated, and presented to the eye a most gorgeous display of purple and crimson colors exceeding, in variety, beauty, and magnificence, any similar exhibition ever seen in this latitude. The lights first made their appearance in the north west, and the reflection of the rays on the sky much resembled that produced by a distant and extensive conflagration. They gradually extended over the northern part of the horizon, and reached to the zenith of the heavens, radiating towards that the zenith of the heavens, radiating towards that point as to a great centre of attraction; and they fi-nally diffused themselves in all directions in the most variegated forms imaginable, playing all kinds of "fantastic tricks before high heaven." Nothing could excel the splendor of the scene. The frequency and uncommon brilliancy of these lights have of late drawn the attention of the learned to this subject, and new light will be thrown upon the investigation by the novel exhibition of the last night.—Daily Whig

The Aurora Borralis, last evening, presented a magnificent spectacle. At about eight o'clock, when we saw it, there appeared a central point about fifteen or twenty degrees south of the zenith, from which rays, or streaks, diverged over the whole welkin, quite to the horizon, varying in color from the ordinary morning.

"Os the next morning he gave the master a letter to the horizon, varying in color from the ordinary brightness of this phenomenon to a deep crimson, and throwing a strong light on the earth. Two things especially attracted our attention—the stars twinkling through the red light in the heavens, and the crimson tinge of the snow. Verily, thought we, "the Heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handy work."

The beautiful appearance of the heavens was at its height, just as the chorus "The Heavens declare the glory of God," was being performed at the Oraterio.—Eastern Argus, Portland, Jan. 26.

Aurora Boreallis.—The Aurora presented a magnificent spectacle last evening. Soon after 7 o'clock, on seeing him, "have you obtained your money?" to the horizon, varying in color from the ordinary brightness of this phenomenon to a deep crimson, and throwing a strong light on the earth. Two things especially attracted our attention—the stars twinkling through the red light in the heavens, and the crimson tinge of the snow. Verily, thought we, "the Heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handy work."

The beautiful appearance of the heavens was at its height, just as the chorus "The Heavens declare the glory of God," was being performed at the Oraterio.—Eastern Argus, Portland, Jan. 26.

THE HERALD.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1837. VOLUME II. NO. 276.

ebservable towards the north—at first to the elevation of 45 to 50 degrees. It gradually rose higher and expanded wider, until it reached the zenith, presenting a most brilliant phenomenon. In course of a few minutes it extended far across the zenith and down tonutes it extended far across the zenith and down to-wards the southern horizon. Such is its appearance at this moment—40 minutes past 7. It exhibits a stapendous belt of light from north-west to south-east, formed apparently by atreams of light shooting obliquely across the belt. There was little wind, and the stars shone bright, many of which were visible through the light. We have never before had an ep-portunity to witness so splendid a specimen of the Aurera Borealis.—Gazette, Boston, Jen. 26.

THE AURORA BOREALIS .- There was a splendid ex-THE AUEGRA BOREAUS.—There was a splendid exhibition of the Aurera Borealis last evening. The heavens about the zenith, and to the north, presented an appearance seldom seen during this phenomenon. They seemed filled with streams of the most brilliant purple light, which were shooting in various directions, and at about eight o'clock appeared to radiate from the zenith, which presented a most magnificent spectacle. The reflection of this brilliant light on the snow, added to the singular beauty of the scene.—Mer. Jour., Boston, Jan. 26. Mer. Jour., Boston, Jan. 26.

POPPING THE QUESTION .- "This is Moome's most delicate and charmed manufacture," said Norman, stripping off his uniform plaid; "if you are spell bound in it, the guilt be on the head of the sorceress." This affected gaiety was of brief duration. He wrapped the plaid closely around her. His trembling arm, gliding beneath its cumbrous folds, entwined her waist. In the rapturous delirium of that moment, he fell at her feet—he drew her towards him with a constraint, strong, gentle, irresistible. Her head sunk powerless on his bosom, and a moment of rapturous straint, strong, gentie, irresistible. Her head sunk powerless on his bosom, and a moment of rapturous silence followed, ere Norman, in a whisper perceptible only to the ear of love, could whisper, "Monimia, I have dared to love!" Menimia replied only by a deep, quivering sigh. She made a feeble effort to diseengage herself from his embrace. She clowly raised her face, beautiful in the paleness of overpowering emotion. A smile, tender, languid, onthusiastic, played over it—the smile of a soul in bliss. Her sighs fanned the cheek of Norman. He wildly printed on her lip the first kiss of unutterable, unextinguishable love. While he hung on that yielded lip, his soul seemed fled to Monimia. Her head again dropped on his shoulder—the sigh which dilated his breast heaved the bosom of Monimia. "Monimia loves," thought Norman, holding his breath, lest it should dissolve the spell that bound him in enchantment. The first rapture of bliss, too exquisite for utterance, wore away in that mysterious silence which is the soft nurse of those delicious emotions that the human bosom feels but once, and remembers for ever.—Mrs. Johnstone's Clan Albin.

THE TONES OF NATURE ARE SAD.—The world even of nature, is not one laughing, gay scene. It is not so in fact; it appears not so in the light of our sober, solemn christian teachings. The dark cloud sometimes overshadows it; the storm sweeps through its pleasant valleys; the thunder smites its everlasting hills; and the holy record hath said, "thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee." It has been said that all the tones in nature are—to use the musical phrase—on the minor key. That is to say, they are plaintive tones. And although the fact is probably somewhat exaggerated, when stated so strongly and unqualifiedly, yet to a certain extent it is true. It is true, that that tone always mingles with the music of nature. In the winds that stir the mountain pine, as well as in the wailing storm, in the soft falling shower, and in the rustling of the autumn leaves; in the roar of ocean, as it breaks upon the lonely seabeach; in the thundering cataract, that lifts up its THE TONES OF NATURE ARE SAD .- The world ever the roar of ocean, as it breaks upon the lonely seabeach; in the thundering cataract, that lifts up its eternal anthem amidst the voices of nature; and so likewise, in those inarticulate interpretations of nature the bleating of flock, the lowing of herds, and even in the song of birds, there is usually something that touches the sad and brooding spirit of thought. And the contemplation of nature in all its forms, as well of beauty as of sublimity, is apt to be tinged with melancholy. And all the higher musings, the nobler aspirations of the mind, possess something of this character. I doubt if there were ever a manifestation of genius in the world, that did not bear something of this trait.

Anecdote of a Remarkable Swimmer—Tom Hall, quarter-master on beard the British man-of-war Canada, used to perform some extraordinary feats in the water. His principal one was to drep from the main yard arm—descend on one side, dive under the ship's bottom, a depth of thirty feet, and ascend to the surface on the other. When Hall was in his prime, he had been induced by a large wager to perform this feat, with the difference of throwing humself from the topsail yard arm instead of the main yard. He fell from this tremendous height, dived down the larboard side, and the crew stood in breathless suspense for his fate. Every eye was fixed to see him ascend on the opposite side; the length of time, however, which he remained under water, seemed to destroy all hope, when he at last arose above the water, apparently much distressed, struggled a few seconds and sunk.—All now was sorrow amongst the crew, and those ANECDOTE OF A REMARKABLE SWIMMER-Tom Hail, All now was sorrow amongst the crew, and those who had made the bet reproached themselves that they had stimulated the brave man to attempt an imthey had stimulated the brave man to attempt an impossibility to the destruction of his own life. Nothing was heard fore and aft the decks but praises of "poor Tom Hall," and sorrow that he should have "met his death in such a way." In about a quarter of an hour from his last appearance, a violent burst of laughter was heard, as if proceeding from out of the sea,—Every head was thrust over the side and through the Every head was thrust over the side and through the ports, to ascertain what it could be; when to the no less astonishment thun delight of every soul on board. Tom Hall was seen frolicking and sporting in the water, and laughing and jeering at the crew. When he appeared above water after the first plunge, he had kept his head above the surface sufficiently long to regain his wind, on which he dived back again to the side where nobody was looking for his, and having swam to the stern, he supported himself by the rudder-chains, under the counter, till the idea of his death was confirmed by the length of his absence, when he swam to the side, and halling the ship, enjoyed the surswam to the side, and hailing the ship, enjoyed the surprise which his reappearance occasion

EXTRACT FROM "TABLE TALK."—Here is an anecdote of Cromwell, told on the authority of Mr. Poulteney, who is said to have adverted to the fact during

ency, who is said to have adverted to the fact during a debate in the House of Commons:

"An English merchant ship was captured, during a period of profound peace with France, by a vessel of that nation, and carried into St. Malo, where she was condemned, and sold for the benefit of the captors, upon some frivolous and groundless pretence.

"The master of this merchant man, who happened to be an honest Quaker, immediately on his return to England presented a petition, complaining of this

England presented a petition, complaining of this gnevance, and praying for redress, to the Protector in council. On hearing the case, Cromwell informed the council he would take the affair into his own hands, and ordered the master to attend him the next

morning.

"After a strict examination of the particulars of the case, finding the master to be a plain honest man, who had been embarked in no illegal traffie, he asked him if he would be the bearer of a letter to Paris. The man assented; he prepared for the journey without delay, and waited on him again the following morning.

Being answered in the negative, he told the quaker to leave his address with the secretary, promising to let him hear from him shertly.

"Without involving hintself in the delays, trickeries, and evasions of diplematic negotiations—without the empty parade of protocols and conferences, which too often waste time without leading to any satisfactory results—without even deigning to repeat his demand, or explain the ground of his proceeding, this distinguished statesman issued orders to seize every French ship which his cruisers fell in with, and bring them into port. In pursuance of these orders, several captures were made, and their cargoes ordered by the Protector to be immediately sold. Out of the produce of these sales he paid the quaker the full value of his ship and cargo; and sending for the French ambassador, then resident in London, he acquainted him with the steps he had taken, and the reason of his doing so, informing him at the same time that there was a balance out of the produce of the sales, which should he need to the produce of the sales, which should so, informing him at the same time that there was a balance out of the produce of the sales, which should be paid to him if he pleased, for the purpose of return-

SAVE MY CURLS!—The Newburgh Gazette—no doubt its editor is an ill-natured, musty, snarling, snappish old bachelor—says that at a late fire in that village, a buxom widow, fat, fair, and forty, whose local habitation, and all her stock of worldly gear, were enveloped in the devouring element, being voci-ferously entreated by her friends from without to make her escape, and come out of the flaming tene-ment, "Indeed," says she very coolly, "that I shan't until I have found my carls!"

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Corner of Nassau and Pine sts., City of New York.

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ance of their patronage.

The Hotel's comediately adjoining the Custom House, and within a minute's walk of Wall *Bree', Broadway, and other principal kuiness streets; consequently is very convenient for those gentlemen who reside in the upper part of the city. Breakfast can be obtained at the Refectory at all hours from 6 A. M. till noon, and dimer from noon till 6 P. M. The Propositor feels warranted in saying that his tables are furnished in a manner not surpassed by any establishment

which the Custom House Hotel will, in future, be supplied with the carliest fruits, game, and other debeach s of the various seasons supply of the choicest wines and liquors. JAMES HORN, Jr.

The R. C. BROWN & CO., having opened a Coffee House (the Niagara), at No. 45 Warren street, and laid in a stock of the choicest Wices, Liquors, &c., hope by s'rict attenton to the wishes of their customers, to merit a share of public patronage.

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of HARMONY HALL, has been opened by the of HARMONY HALL, has been opened by the subscriber, and will be conducted on an entire new plan, which he hopes will give satisfaction to his friends and the public generally, he will always keep the least the market affords—such as Birde, Fish, Flesh, &c. The Bar will be furnished with the best of Liquors. Oysters served up in the best style.

Men's can be had at all hours at a moment's notice.

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AMOS S. ALLIN.

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MEN'S BOOT AND SHOE STORE. No. 5 Beekman st.
Chuton Hall, New York, near the Park.—The subscriber, grateful for the distinguished patronage received since his opening the above store, would respectfully inform his friends and the public in general, that he keeps on hand and is constantly manufacturing a prime article of water proof Boots of French cail skim, which have given great satisfaction for many years to those who have swent hem.

Dress Boots of superior workmanship and finish, and Opera Pumpi that received essecially the Silver Medal of the Asseriean Institute, at the late Fair at Nibo's.

Strangers visiting the city will find it to their advantage to call, as much attention is paid to transient customers.

All orders thankfully received and puncturity attended to.

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YEAR'S PRESENTS.—The subscriber has received the most
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the bottom of the grate when the fire is burning, the draught may be turned downward in a moment, so as to cause all the dail cost to become grated.

In the use of these straughts the hetair is brought to pass ever every inch of the radiating surface of the iron, viz. all parts the too bottom and sides, and so sunformly is it diffused, as to give a very mild and pleasant beat.

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The silk Hats ne made on the finest fur bodies, which renders
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